

**Governor's Family Violence Council Meeting**  
**Staffed by the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services**  
**Wednesday, October 12, 2022**  
**10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Participating Members:**

Jeanne Yeager, Chair  
Dorothy Lennig, Esq., Vice-Chair  
Heather Amador for Kunle Adeyemo, Esq.  
Lillian Agbeyegbe  
Reverend Lawrence Crabtree  
Jessica Dickerson for Secretary Sam Abed  
Debbie Feinstein, Esq.  
Senator Susan Lee  
Pamela Manning  
John McGinnis for Secretary Mohammed Choudhury  
Marcia Morris for Secretary Lourdes Padilla  
Lisa Nitsch  
Erin O'Neill for Senator Mary Beth Carozza  
Leslye Orloff, Esq.  
Jennifer Pollitt-Hill  
Laure Ruth, Esq.  
Delegate Haven Shoemaker  
Carrie Williams, Esq. for Attorney General Brian Frosh

**Guests:**

Stephanie Erdice, Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault  
Patrick Lally, Governor's Coordinating Offices  
Michael Lore, Maryland General Assembly  
Melanie Shapiro, Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence

**Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services Staff:**

Rebecca Allyn, Marianne Camino

**I. Welcome & Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at approximately 10:01 a.m. Ms. Allyn conducted a roll call and guests introduced themselves.

**II. Domestic Violence Awareness Month Proclamation Presentation**

Patrick Lally presented the Council with a proclamation from Governor Hogan, proclaiming October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The proclamation will be mailed to Ms. Yeager, Chairwoman of the Governor's Family Violence Council.

### **III. Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services Updates**

Ms. Allyn informed members that the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services (the Office) is hosting a Grants Training on December 5-6 through Grant Writing USA. Ms. Allyn will share information on the training following the meeting. The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and Domestic Violence Centers (GDVC) grant applications are currently being reviewed. A Technical Assistance Session was held last week for Victims of Crime Assistance (VOCA) grantees to provide guidance on unallowable costs. The Grant Management System (GMS) has been reopened for VOCA and applicants can make changes to their applications and resubmit by 11/14/22. Applications will be processed on a rolling basis.

### **IV. Approval of Minutes**

The July 2022 Council meeting minutes were provided to members and guests. Ms. Yeager made a motion to approve the minutes; Ms. Feinstein seconded the motion. All members were in favor and the minutes were approved.

### **V. Workgroup Updates**

#### *a. Abuse Intervention Program (AIP) Workgroup*

The workgroup met in September to continue discussing the MOU model for certification. The workgroup will solidify the details and guidance for the MOU requirement. The plan is to present the proposal for the MOU requirement to be included in the AIP Guidelines at the January Council meeting. The workgroup discussed hosting a webinar for MOU guidance prior to certification. The workgroup will meet next in December.

Ms. Allyn informed members that seven AIP site visits were conducted, and all programs were found to be in compliance with the AIP guidelines.

#### *b. Access to Benefits for Immigrant Survivors Workgroup*

Ms. Orloff provided members with an update on the workgroup's first meeting. The workgroup aims to examine how Maryland's benefit policies and laws compare to other states. The National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project (NIWAP) has already conducted research on this, and they are taking a deeper look at individual state's benefits and which states are excelling in certain areas (i.e., state and federally funded benefits such as healthcare, loans, snap, juvenile, U visa, etc.). The workgroup will also examine the gaps and barriers immigrant domestic violence survivors face when accessing services and examine the U visa certification process in Maryland and identify how/if it is working. The workgroup identified stakeholders to invite to participate in the workgroup.

#### *c. Stalking Workgroup*

Ms. Feinstein updated members on the workgroup's first meeting. The workgroup is examining the nexus between stalking and lethality and elevating the issue on a state level. The workgroup will also look at law enforcement stalking training, other state's stalking laws, and data on stalking convictions and cases. The workgroup will meet next in November.

*d. Survivor Advisory Council Workgroup*

Ms. Allyn provided an update on the workgroup's first meeting. The workgroup aims to hold focus groups with survivors to guide services and programming, as well as develop best practices for survivor engagement. The workgroup will also research best practice models for survivor led groups/councils. The next meeting will be held on October 17 at 10:00 a.m.

Ms. Allyn reminded members that they should be participating in at least one workgroup.

**VI. Old/New Business**

Members shared training and events that are taking place during Domestic Violence Awareness Month:

- NIWAP is holding a training for judges and attorneys.
- The Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence (MNADV) is holding their annual meeting on October 27.
- MNADV hosted a Lunch and Learn on the new laws for remote protective order hearings and landlord tenant issues.
- Montgomery County launched an awareness campaign, including their walk in their shoes event.

Ms. Lennig and Ms. Shapiro shared they are beginning to work on the legislative agendas for the 2023 Legislative Session. One topic they are considering to address is if respondents in protective orders are giving up their firearms. Ms. Allyn reminded members that if there is any legislation, they want the Council to consider supporting or opposing, to send the bill information to her as soon as possible.

**VII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:02 a.m.